



Attorney's Docket No. 043474/257035

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Joseph Robert Offutt, Jr. et al.

Appl. No.: 09/275,887

Filed: March 25, 1999

For: METHODS AND APARATUS

FOR DETERMINING NON-OBVIOUS

SAVINGS IN THE PURCHASE OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Confirmation No.: 1353

Group Art Unit: 3626

Examiner: Robert W. Morgan

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)

GROUP 3600

Sir:

Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with copies of each identified document. Also enclosed is a translation or a concise explanation of each non-English language document.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), before final Office Action or Allowance, whichever is earlier.

In accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), the following statement as specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is made:

No item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person

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signing this document after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew T. Spence
Registration No. 45,699

CUSTOMER NO. 00826
ALSTON & BIRD LLP
Bank of America Plaza
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000
Tel Charlotte Office (704) 444-1000
Fax Charlotte Office (704) 444-1111

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 4, 2004



Sarah B. Simmons

CLT01/4630695v1

PIPE JOINTS
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(as necessary)

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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of

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Application Number	09/275,887
Filing Date	March 25, 1999
First Named Inventor	Joseph Robert Offutt, Jr. et al.
Group Art Unit	3626
Examiner Name	Robert W. Morgan
Attorney Docket Number	042933/257035

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US- 6,360,205 B1	03-19-2002	Iyengar et al.	
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					TECHNOLOGY CENTER R9780
					RECEIVED
					FEB 18 2004
					GROUP 3600

Foreign Patent Document						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Country Code - Number Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	English Language Translation Attached
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

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